

Community Environmental Advisory Commission Agenda

Regular Meeting

March 15, 2022 - 05:00 PM

Online Meeting

Members: Hannah Bohn-Jenkins, Max Dalton, Indigo Davitt- Liu, Meron Demissie, Mark Dhennin, Tess Dornfeld, Divine Islam, Mathew Douglas-May, Sandy Fazeli, Lauren Fleming, Maddie Henderson, LesLee Jackson, Anna Johnson, Toya Lopez, Barbara Lunde, Nicholas Minderman, Erin Niehoff, Suzanne Savanick Hansen, Jaqueline Zepeda (Quorum - 10)

Staff: Kim W. Havey, Bjorn Olson

Guests: Zach Schultz, Councilmember Lisa Goodman's Office; Jack Levi, Kenwood Neighborhood Organization; Leah Hiniker, Hennepin County Sustainability; Diana Chaman Salas, Hennepin County Sustainability; Sashana Williams, Pillsbury United Communities

Call to Order ,

1. Roll Call.
2. Adoption of the agenda.

Erin motion to accept minutes and agenda with change to add Hennepin Ave Redesign adoption and include Roof Depot update conversation. Tess seconded. Motion passed.

3. Acceptance of minutes

[February 15, 2022 Community Environmental Advisory Commission](#)

Consent

Location: Online Meeting, Dial-In Number: 612-276-6670 Phone Conference ID: 631 784 456#

Land Acknowledgement: As we meet here today, we are reminded that Minneapolis is situated on the homelands of the Dakota people. An area that is steeped in rich Indigenous history, it is home to Indigenous people from more than 30 different nations. As a City, we have a responsibility to care for the land on which we live and work and all its natural surroundings. This stewardship is an integral part of our involvement in this commission, and we honor it as we begin our meeting. We now open this space to discuss ways in which we can support Indigenous people in our community.

Tess recommended to the group movies on Line 3 and Line 5 and threats to Anishinabe way of life and crisis of violence against indigenous women.

Presentations:

Roof Depot – Kim Havey

City Council passed a motion to stop the demolition of the Roof Depot Plan. Mayor Frey vetoed the plan but language delayed demolition until the summer and provides the East Phillips community and other to present a proposal for the whole site.

Decarbonizing Lawn Equipment – Jack Levi – City Resident

There is citizen interest in an initiative to phase out fossil gas equipment in landscaping operations to eliminate harmful air pollution and reduce noise. This is also an environmental justice issue with workers. Jack would like to develop an action plan if there is interest in this issue.

Bjorn Olson gave an overview of the Pollution Control Agency's gas landscaping replacement grant program and how this might apply to Minneapolis and potentially the Green Business Cost Share Program.

There can be both an incentive and an enforcement approach. Bans take time and difficult to enforce while grants and education are effective for immediate projects and benefits.

A CEAC letter of support could be helpful and prioritize small and minority owned businesses. Meron, Sandy, Anna, and Hannah volunteered to move these recommendations forward. The Commission thanked Jack for his time.

Overview of Hennepin County Climate Action Plan - Diana L Chaman Salas and Leah Hiniker

Diana gave an overview of the Hennepin County Climate Action Plan and gave highlights including innovative engagement with North Minneapolis and UMN extension on Urban Agriculture and an anaerobic digester in Brooklyn Park. The Plan has specific goals of intentional engagement with vulnerable communities. The County has two community liaisons in the department dedicated to this. The County also has a goal of planting 1 million trees by 2050 and is using GIS maps to assess areas of priority and vulnerable communities. The County doesn't have authority to require cities to adopt sustainable building policies, but they can incentivize it.

Questions from the group:

Does carbon sequestration consist of just tree planting or are there more opportunities?

The County will look at expanding technology, the sequestration goal is based on GHG emissions remaining after reductions.

Are trucks in the fleet converting to EV or just cars and what's happening to the old vehicles?

The County fleet includes light-duty trucks and cars and ambulances will be hybrid in 2030.

Vehicles are leased and would be returned to the market.

Is the County considering collecting food waste from public schools?

There is work on developing an RFP and strategy for this.

Can vehicle retirement be accelerated above 45% by 2030?

EV supply is still limited and municipality demand is high.

Will there be a decommissioning HERC and/or proper monitoring of emissions?

Decommissioning is not likely. As of now the emissions monitoring is considered accurate.

Discussion:

Feedback and thoughts on decarbonizing lawn equipment incentive program

Opportunities to support Hennepin County Sustainability efforts

Hennepin Ave Redesign Letter

Matthew made a motion to send the recommendations of the past and current letter. Lauren seconded. Motion passed.

The Community Connection Conference is on May 21; April 9th is the deadline to apply for a table. The Greenzone Summit is happening as part of the Community Connection conference.

A table for CEAC alone hasn't been helpful in the past, but it is good to partner with Sustainability Division. Sustainability has decided to prioritize the Green Zones summit and not have a table.

MnDOT 252 project discussion included adding lanes on I-94 in North Minneapolis. A new engagement period may occur, CEAC should pay attention if there have been positive changes.

Next Wednesday MN350's Green New Deal launching their Climate Action and Equity Plan.

Old Business

Updates and Announcements from Commissioners and staff

- All City boards and commissions will continue to meet virtually until further notice
- Conversations with the Mayor and Council Members has begun around adopting the Fair Share Science Based Targets. A request for council action will be submitted in April.
- Minneapolis is collaborating with over 20 MN cities is pursuing [Better Buildings for MN](#), which is state legislation to update the building code so that it will provide a pathway to net zero energy for all buildings 50,000 SF and larger by 2036
- Representative Jamie Long is pursuing a statewide benchmarking bill based on the Minneapolis model. Any building reporting to a city or county currently would be exempt.
- Applications are being taken now for the [Green Cost Share program](#)
- Take the [Food Action Plan survey](#) to give your feedback and priorities through March 31st

Possible Future CEAC Meeting Topics:

- Climate Action and Equity Plan Steering Committee and Task Force opportunities
- Bikes, Scooters and Mobility Hubs: What's ahead for 2022? – Looking at a later CEAC meeting after final negotiations for the bikes and scooters contract is complete.
- Carbon Free Zones and fossil gas free development
- Sustainable building policies for City Financed economic development
- How to reduce plastic in the community?
- How do we reduce emissions from the HERC?

Adjournment

Notice:

A portion of this meeting may be closed to the public pursuant to MN Statutes Section 13D.03 or 13D.05.

Next Community Environmental Advisory Commission meeting: April 12, 2022 from 5-7 PM Virtual Meeting

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the City Coordinator's Office at 612-673-2563 or e-mail sustainability@minneapolismn.gov. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-263-6850. Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.